the location and extent of liquefiable strata, the severity of seismicity and updated probable maximum flood based on additional investigations. The Brahmaputra Board has constituted a Committee headed by Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Revenue Department to examine, recommend and oversee implementation of various works under resettlement and rehabilitation package. Brahmaputra Board has already taken up execution of infrastructural development works in the project site and various resettlement and rehabilitation sites. For monitoring the implementation of the project, a Board Level Project Implementation Authority and Project level Construction and Monitoring Committee have also been constituted. Taking up major works of the project and their completion in time is dependent on handing over of land by the State Government to Brahmaputra Board so as to enable it to complete the project within the stipulated time.

Since the Brahmaputra Board is already a statutory body, which was established under Act of Parliament 1980 (46 of 1980), no separate autonomous authority is contemplated for implementation of Pagladiya Dam Project.

Revision of rates of interest on loans

†*13. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of interest on the loan given to different sectors from time to time during April, 2000 to October, 2003 by Public Sector Banks in the country has been revised;

(b) if so, when these changes have been made together with the details thereof; and

(c) the rates of interest being charged on different kinds of loans given to various sectors by Public Sector Banks during April, 2000 and October, 2003?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) RBI does not maintain sector-wise details of the rates of interest charged by Public Sector Banks on various kinds of loans. However, it has been reported by them that:

the lending rates on demand loans levied by the Public Sector Banks came down from the range of 6.5-16.25 per cent in June 2002 to the range of 5.5-15.5% in June 2003.

actual lending rate for Public Sector Banks on pre-shipment (up to 180 days) rupee export credit came down from the range of 7.25-9.50 per cent in June 2002 to the range of 6.25-9.00 per cent by end June 2003.

the range of prime lending rates (PLRs) of Public Sector Banks remained unchanged at 9.00-12.25 per cent, however, 14 Public Sector Banks have lowered their PLRs by 25-75 basis points between March and October 2003; and

interest rate on food credit, which is based on the average of PLR of 5 major Public Sector Banks, at present, works out to 10.95 per cent.

Financial performance of IA

*14. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether Indian Airlines has been continuously incurring loss which has been commented by the CAG in its latest report;

(b) whether delay in aircraft fleet maintenance, poor revenue management, injudicious implementation of the promotional fares and underutilisation of cargo capacity were the main reasons given by the CAG;

(c) whether IA is expected to post a net loss of Rs. 93.98 crores in the first six months (April-September) of the current fiscal year; and

(d) if so, steps Government propose to take to improve its position after CAG's report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.